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SCORED WALLBOARD

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The invention relates to wall boards which are scored to resemble tile which may be painted or otherwise finished to represent a tile wall for use in finishing the interior walls of bathrooms, kitchens, or other rooms in homes and for stores and various other business places and the like.

Such wall boards have been in use for some considerable time and under present practice the tile scoring is formed by means of a grinding wheel or the like which grinds or cuts grooves at properly spaced intervals across the face of the board, these grooves usually having a somewhat rounded bottom surface and also terminating in sharp corners at the top surface. Paint, lacquer, enamel, or other suitable finishing material is then applied to the surface of the board which may or may not be buffed or otherwise polished to produce a smooth glossy surface and a paint or the like of a different color is applied to the grooves to represent mortar joints, whereby the entire finished wall board gives the representation of a tile wall of any desired design and color having mortar joints between the individual tiles.

Considerable difficulty has been experienced, especially where such wall boards are used around stall showers, tub showers, or anywhere that excessive steam, moisture or water are frequently present, for there is a tendency for such steam or moisture to attack the finish at the weak point of any surfacing material. These weak points are caused by the fact that it is impossible to get more than a very light film of paint upon the sharp corners at the edges of the grooves in the board due to a tendency of liquids to shy away from any sharp edges or corners. The steam or moisture around a shower bath or similar location quickly attacks the wall board by penetrating the surface of the wall board at these points causing the wall board to expand, thereby causing the paint or other covering to quickly deteriorate along the sharp corners and causing the finishing material to separate from the surface of the wall board adjacent to the grooves.

The object of the present invention is to provide a new and improved form of groove in the surface of the wall board to represent mortar joints therein, this groove having rounded or rolled edges over which the paint, lacquer, enamel or other coating material may be uniformly coated of a thickness substantially equal to the coating upon the flat surfaces of the wall board, thus overcoming the weakness in the present type of tile grooved wall boards and

obviating the possibility of moisture deteriorating or breaking down the wall board which in turn causes the coating of paint or the like along the sharp edges of the groove to peel off.

A further object is to form the groove with substantially straight or slightly curved side walls and a flat or slightly curved bottom wall so that the coat of different colored paint or the like which is applied to the groove will be confined within a definite area producing the appearance of a straight mortar joint of uniform width.

A still further object is to produce a tile scored wall board having the appearance of heavy rolled edges around the tile blocks which more nearly resembles ceramic tile blocks with mortar joints since the rounded corners of the grooves give the appearance of depth to the individual tile portions of the wall board.

The above objects together with others will be apparent from the drawing and following description or which may be later pointed out may be attained by constructing the improved wall board in the manner illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which

Figure 1 is a plan view of a portion of a wall board embodying the invention;

Fig. 2, a greatly enlarged detail sectional view through one of the grooves formed in accordance with the invention;

Fig. 3, a similar view showing the wall board finished with paint, lacquer, enamel, or other coating; and

Fig. 4, a view similar to Fig. 3 showing the present practice.

Similar numerals refer to similar parts throughout the drawing.

Wall boards of the general class to which the invention pertains are formed of thin sheets or boards of hard pressed wood, pulp, fiber, asbestos, cement, or other material used in the production of a hard board. This material may be of any practical thickness.

The wall board is indicated generally by the numeral 10 and the front surface 11 thereof is quite smooth so that it may be finished with a highly polished coating of paint, lacquer, enamel, or other coating material.

In order to show the difficulty experienced under the present practice of providing tile scoring upon the surface of such wall boards, attention is called to Fig. 4 of the drawing. A groove having a substantially rounded bottom surface is indicated at 12 and is formed in the surface of the wall board as by a grinding wheel or the like